

Abram G. Eckerson House
Chestnut Ridge Road
Montvale, Bergen County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

Abram G. Eckerson House
Chestnut Ridge Road
Montvale, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: Mr. John G. Foxlee

Date of Erection: East end of stone portion 1796;
west end of stone portion 1799;
second story added to the west
end 1890

Architect:

Builder: Abram G. Eckerson

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Foundation - sandstone

Exterior walls - dressed
red sandstone

Interior walls - plaster on
stone. The frame is 4x4
oak studs 2 feet on center
filled between with stone
laid in mud, plastered both
sides

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

The progenitor of the Eckerson or Ackerson
family in America was John Thomaszen, the son of a
Swedish soldier and a Dutch mother, born in Holland

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in 1640 who came to America in 1665. It appears that the children of this man adopted the surname Eckse which passed through different variations until it arrived at Eckerson or Ackerson. It was a son of John, Cornelius, who in 1718 with his wife and children came to Old Tappan in Bergen County.

The builder of this house, Abram G., was of the sixth generation, born in 1770. He erected the original part of this house, a small story and a half structure, in 1796. The house stood within a few feet of what was then the direct route to Albany by way of Haverstraw and Newburgh. At the time Abram built this section of the country was known as Old Tappan and had as its county seat New City, New York. Later on when the final boundary survey was made in 1874, this house was just a few yards away from the boundary in New Jersey. The early deeds and records are supposed to be at Albany.

When Abram Eckerson married Catherine Smith in 1799, he added the wing to the west side of the original dwelling. When Eckerson died in 1847, this house was taken over by the Demarest family. They had possession of the farm until 1875. There has been several owners between their occupancy and its purchase by the present owner in 1910.


Bibliography:

Harvey, C.B. Geneological History of Hudson and Bergen Counties, New Jersey New York Geneological Publishing Company, 1900

Material collected by Wallace Dunlop, Survey Historian for Bergen County


Supervising Historian

Approved:


SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.
District Officer